

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-15 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 12, 14, and 15 are amended. Claims 1, 12, and 14 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 24, 2005. An initialed copy of the PTO-1449 should be sent to the undersigned at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, and 7-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,818,935 to Maa (hereafter "Maa"). This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

As amended, independent claims 1, 12, and 14 recite that the first communication signal includes the contents and limitation information. These claims have further been amended to recite that the receiver, or a section thereof, is configured to prevent normal outputting of the contents if release information does not have a matching correlation with the release information. Applicant respectfully submits that Maa fails to disclose this feature.

Initially, Applicant points out that Maa fails to send limitation information along with the contents (video signal) via the first communication signal (RF video signal), as required by the independent claims.

Specifically, the Examiner relies on Maa's decryption key to teach the claimed release information (see Office Action at page 2, citing "Decryption Key" of col. 7 line 16-col. 8, line 8). This decryption key is applied in a mathematical function (decryption process) to *transform* Maa's encrypted contents into usable data (viewable video content). In the rejection, the Examiner relies on this decryption process to teach the claimed detection of a predetermined

matching correlation between the release information and the limitation information (see Office Action at page 2, citing "Video decryption unit 16" for the claimed matching correlation detection section). Thus, it is clear that the Examiner is relying on the *encrypted format* of Maa's video contents as the limitation information, not on other information that is transmitted or supplied along with the contents in the same carrier signal.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that there is no teaching in Maa of limitation information being sent or supplied along with the contents over the first communication system, as recited in claims 1, 12, and 14.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Maa's set top box (STB) does not do anything to prevent normal viewing of the video contents when a matching correlation is not detected. The only mechanism disclosed in Maa for preventing normal viewing is the encryption of the video contents. This encryption is performed at the TV broadcast station, not at the STB. Thus, Maa also fails to teach that the receiver is configured to prevent normal viewing of the contents if the predetermined matching correlation is not detected, as required by the independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 12, and 14 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 7-11, 13, and 15 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on allowable claims. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maa in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,901,339 to Saito (hereafter "Saito"). Applicant respectfully submits that Saito fails to remedy the deficiencies of Maa set forth above in connection with independent claim 1. Specifically, the teachings of Saito relied upon by the Examiner merely relate to the local storage of program guide information. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-6

are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

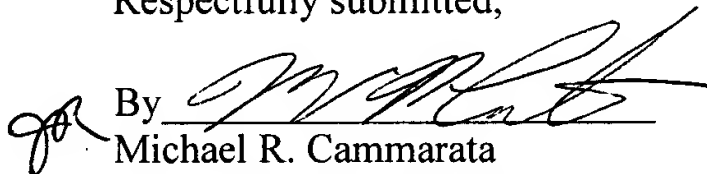
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

However, should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, he is requested to contact Jason Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the application in an effort to expedite prosecution in the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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